FRESNO, CA- Today, Congressman Jim Costa (D-Fresno) announced that a total of \$20,319 has been awarded to the City of Hanford Police Department to purchase needed equipment such as laptops, alcohol testers, cameras, and battery conditioners. Funding was released by the United States Department of Justice through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG).

"Byrne JAG funding is critical for local law enforcement," Costa said. "This funding allows our police departments a wide range of flexibility to prevent and control crime on their own terms and conditions. I know that Chief Mestas and his officers will put these dollars to good use in their efforts to fight crime and keep the community of Hanford safe."

The equipment that the Hanford Police Department plans to purchase will improve the level of service and manner in which officers investigate, apprehend and prosecute criminals and crimes that occur within their jurisdiction.

The Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Program funding can be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, training, personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support and information systems for criminal justice.